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IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE

E/S Stevenson Lane, and NE/Corner

McKim Avenue and Haddon Avenue

(25 Stevenson Lane)

9<sup>th</sup> Election District

4th Councilmanic District

Woodbrook Baptist Church Petitioner

- BEFORE THE
- DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER
- OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
- Case No. 99-378-A

# FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for consideration of a Petition for Variance filed by the owner of the subject property, Woodbrook Baptist Church, by Steve Meadow, Chairman of Trustees, through their attorney, C. Laurence Jenkins, Jr., Esquire. The Petitioners seek relief from Section 450.4.6 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit one (1) freestanding, double-faced, illuminated identification sign of 48.5 sq.ft., which exceeds the maximum allowed 25 sq.ft., and from Section 450.4.3 of the B.C.Z.R. to permit two (2) freestanding, double-faced, non-illuminated directional signs of 13.6 sq.ft. each, which exceed the maximum allowed 8 sq.ft. The subject property and relief sought are more particularly described on the site plan submitted which was accepted into evidence and marked as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing at the hearing on behalf of the Petition were John Roberts, Pastor of the Woodbrook Baptist Church, Owner of the subject property, Kevin L. Meiser, the sign consultant hired by the Church, and C. Laurence Jenkins, Jr., Esquire, attorney for the Petitioner. Jeff Wible appeared in opposition to the request on behalf of the Rogers Forge Community, Inc.

Testimony and evidence offered revealed that the subject property consists of a gross area of 4.441 acres, more or less, zoned D.R.3.5 and is the site of the Woodbrook Baptist Church and

ORDER RECEIVED/FOR FILING
Date LIFE

Woodbrook Early Education Center which have existed at this location since 1969. Testimony indicated that the Church has undergone numerous improvements over the past several years, including the construction of a new sanctuary. Pastor Roberts testified regarding the various improvements that have been made to the Church over the years and noted that the membership has spent nearly \$3.5 million to upgrade the property. The final phase of these improvements involves the sign package proposed herein.

Testimony indicated that the Church currently has three (3) freestanding identification signs located along Stevenson Lane. The Petitioner is desirous of removing these three signs and replacing them with one (1) larger sign at the entrance to the church complex, in accordance with the detailed sign drawing submitted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 2. Mr. Kevin Meiser, a consultant hired by the Church to develop the new signs, described the new sign in detail. Mr. Meiser testified that the new sign will be a ground-mounted sign, approximately 5' tall by 10'9" wide, with low growing shrubs and plants around its base. The sign will prominently display the name of the Woodbrook Baptist Church at 25 Stevenson Lane, the Woodbrook Early Education Center, which is a pre-school located on site, as well as hours of worship for church services..

In addition to the one identification sign described above, the Petitioner also proposes to erect two interior directional signs which will assist in directing motorists to the education center, as well as parking areas on site. These directional signs are interior to the property and will not be visible from Stevenson Lane. However, at issue to the community in this case is the proposed identification sign.

As noted above, Mr. Jeff Wible, a member of the Rodgers Forge Community association, appeared in opposition to the request. Mr. Wible testified that he and his neighbors are opposed to the sign package proposed by the Petitioner. No details were given as to why these residents

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING Date

are opposed to the sign, but for the fact that the proposed sign does not comply with the recently enacted sign regulations. At the hearing, discussions ensued concerning the sign package being proposed by St. Joseph's Hospital in another zoning case and the community's opposition to that particular variance request. Testimony indicated that these residents are concerned that the granting of the variances requested by the Woodbrook Baptist Church will somehow set a precedent and allow the granting of the sign package proposed by St. Joseph's Hospital.

After considering the testimony and evidence offered in the instant case, I am persuaded to grant the variance relief requested. I find that the Church's efforts to eliminate three freestanding signs along Stevenson Lane and replacing them with one identification sign are a benefit to the community and will reduce sign clutter along Stevenson Lane. While the size of the sign exceeds that permitted by the B.C.Z.R., its size is dictated somewhat by the amount of information to be contained on the sign face. The lettering for the Woodbrook Baptist Church should be of sufficient size to be legible at a distance to passing motorists. In addition, given the existence of the early education center on the property, it is necessary to place that information on the sign. Furthermore, as a consequence of the sign being ground-mounted which requires that landscaping be provided around its base, the lettering and the sign itself must extend above the landscaping in order to be visible. All of these factors contribute to the size of this particular sign, which I find has been tastefully designed and will be located appropriately on the property. The other two signs are directional and will be located within the interior of the site. Thus, I find no compelling reason to deny the request for same.

It should also be noted that the Office of Planning submitted favorable Zoning Advisory Committee comments, dated April 29, 1999, in which they recommended approval of the variance requests. Within those comments, the Office of Planning suggested that the Petitioner be

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required to provide a landscaping treatment around the base of the two internal directional signs, and that the ground-mounted identification sign be illuminated via up-lighting as opposed to internal illumination. I find that these recommendations are appropriate in this instance and shall be incorporated as a condition of approval.

An area variance may be granted where strict application of the zoning regulations would cause practical difficulty to the Petitioner and his property. <u>McLean v. Soley</u>, 270 Md. 208 (1973). To prove practical difficulty for an area variance, the Petitioner must meet the following:

- 1) whether strict compliance with requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2) whether a grant of the variance would do a substantial justice to the applicant as well as other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give sufficient relief; and,
- 3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Bd. of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28 (1974).

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented, it is clear that practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship will result if the variance is not granted. It has been established that special circumstances or conditions exist that are peculiar to the property which is the subject of this request and that the requirements from which the Petitioner seeks relief will unduly restrict the use of the land due to the special conditions unique to this particular parcel. In addition, the relief requested will not cause any injury to the public health, safety or general welfare, and meets the spirit and intent of the B.C.Z.R.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the variance requested should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore county this 15th day of June, 1999 that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from Section 450.4.6 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit one (1) freestanding, double-faced, illuminated identification sign of 48.5 sq.ft. in lieu of the maximum allowed 25 sq.ft., and from Section 450.4.3 of the B.C.Z.R. to permit two (2) freestanding, double-faced, non-illuminated directional signs of 13.6 sq.ft. each, in lieu of the maximum allowed 8 sq.ft. for each, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibits 1 and 2, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restrictions:

- 1) The Petitioners may apply for their sign permits and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until the 30-day appeal period from the date of this Order has expired. If an appeal is filed and this Order is reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.
- 2) The Petitioner shall provide appropriate landscaping around the base of the identification sign, as well as the two directional signs located in the interior of the property.
- 3) The Petitioner shall be permitted to provide ground-mounted up-lighting as the form of illumination for the large identification sign as opposed to internal illumination.
- 4) When applying for a building permit, the site plan and/or landscaping plan filed must reference this case and set forth and address the restrictions of this Order.

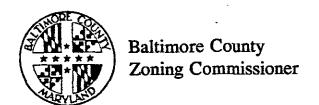
TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO

**Deputy Zoning Commissioner** 

for Baltimore County

TMK:bjs

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Suite 405, County Courts Bldg. 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 410-887-4386 Fax: 410-887-3468

June 15, 1999

C. Laurence Jenkins, Jr., Esquire 211 E. Baltimore Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

**RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE** 

E/S Stevenson Lane, and NE/Corner McKim and Haddon Avenues

(25 Stevenson Lane)

9th Election District - 4th Councilmanic District

Woodbrook Baptist Church - Petitioner

Case No. 99-378-A

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petition for Variance has been granted, in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Zoning Administration and Development Management office at 887-3391.

Very truly yours,

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

hurty Notroco

**Zoning Commissioner** 

for Baltimore County

LES:bis

Pastor John Roberts, Woodbrook Baptist Church

25 Stevenson Lane, Baltimore, Md. 21212

Mr. Kevin L. Meiser

3722 College Avenue, Ellicott City, Md. 21043

Mr. Jeff Wible

400 Old Trail Road, Baltimore, Md. 21212

People's Counsel; Case File



# Petition for Variance

# to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County for the property located at 25 Stevens on Lane

which is presently zoned OR 3.5

This Petition shall be filed with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal
owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and
made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s)

450.4.6 for one (1) Identification sign (free standing) double faced illuminated which exceeds 25 square feet. Actual sign to be 48.5 square feet.

4.50.4.3 for two (2) Directional signs (free standing) double faced, non-illuminated which exceed 8 square feet. Actual signs each to be 13.6 square feet.

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: (indicate

hardship or practical difficulty)

Sec attached sheet

Contract Purchaser/Lessee:

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations. I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County.

Name - Type or Print			
Signature	<u> </u>		
Address		Telepho	one No.
City	State	e Zi	p Code
Attorney For Peti	tioner:		
C. Laurence	. Jenkins, Ji	- , Esq.	
Name Type or Print	epopus)	/	
Signature	0	<del>-</del>	
Company E Baltin	none Street	(410) 977-	5473
Addrass Daltimore	Md	てelepho よほの	ine No. 入
City	State	Z	p Code
6			
Case No. 99	-318-A	• •	-
28U 9115198			

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which

is the subject of this Pe	tition.	
Legal Owner(s):	. 41	
Woodbrook Bo	aptist Churci	h
Name - Type or Print	More or	
017		1
Steve Meador	Chairman of h	ustees
Name - Type or Print		
Signature	1	
25 Stevenson	Lane (4	
Address	Md	Telephone No. よルル
Baltimore		
City	State	Zip Coae
Representative to		
C. Laurence	Jenkins, Ir	•
All E. Ba Himo		419 977-5473
Address,		Telephone No.
Baltimore	Md	71907
City	State	Zip Code
<u>OFF</u>	ICE USE ONLY	1/2 HR
ESTIMATED LENG		G 10 minutes

Reviewed By

### REQUEST FOR VARIANCE

The church has recently completed the construction of a new sanctuary at a cost of \$3,500,000. The church wishes to remove the existing old signs and erect three new ones. The first will be an identification sign to tell passers by the name of the church, the time of services and the fact that we have a Weekday Early Education Center at the church. The directional sign is an important way of attracting visitors and potentially new members to the church and to also let them know about the Weekday Early Education Center. To make the identification sign more visible to passers by in cars and to make the sign more aesthetically pleasing, the sign is larger that the 25 square per side allowed. The directional signs help people find parking and various entrances. The signs are much smaller than the directional sign and will probably not be visible from the street but also exceed the 8 square feet allowed. The church believes that to make the signs smaller causes the church practical difficulty and we believe strict compliance would be unnecessarily burdensome. grant of larger signs will not create any substantial injustice to the adjoining property owners and it is the church's belief that relief can be granted in such a fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured. The signs will cost in excess of \$15,000 and are of quality construction.



### Description

# To Accompany Petition for Zoning Variance 4.441 Acre Parcel

Ninth Election District, Baltimore County, Maryland



Daft MCune Walker, Inc.

200 East Pennsylvania Avenue Towson, Maryland 21286 http://www.dmw.com 410 296 3333 Fax 410 296 4705

A Team of Land Planners, Landscape Architects, Engineers, Surveyors & Environmental Professionals

Beginning for the same at the point situate Northwesterly 10 feet, more or less, from the point formed by the intersection of the centerline of McKim Avenue with the centerline of Haddon Avenue, thence leaving said point of beginning and running, the two following courses and distances, viz: (1) North 03 degrees 53 minutes 02 seconds West 17.62 feet, and thence (2) North 86 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds East 54.01 feet, thence binding on the easternmost side of Haddon Avenue, the three following courses and distances, viz: (3) Northwesterly by a line curving to the right with a radius of 25.00 feet for a distance of 36.76 feet (the arc of said curve being subtended by a chord bearing North 51 degrees 02 minutes 14 seconds West 33.54 feet and having a beginning tangent bearing of South 86 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds West and a departing tangent bearing of North 08 degrees 54 minutes 58 seconds West), thence (4) Northwesterly by a line curving to the left with a radius of 180.00 feet for a distance of 89.82 feet (the arc of said curve being subtended by a chord bearing North 23 degrees 12 minutes 43 seconds West 88.89 feet and having a beginning tangent bearing of North 08 degrees 54 minutes 58 seconds West and a departing tangent bearing of North 37 degrees 30 minutes 27 seconds West), and thence (5) North 03 degrees 53 minutes 02 seconds West 33.49 feet, thence binding on the southeast side of Stevenson Lane, the three following courses and distances, viz: (6) Northeasterly by line curving to the left with a radius of 563.09 feet for a distance of 169.76 feet (the arc of said curve being subtended by a chord bearing

North 28 degrees 16 minutes 42 seconds East 169.12 feet and having a beginning tangent bearing of North 36 degrees 54 minutes 55 seconds East and a departing tangent bearing of North 19 degrees 38 minutes 30 seconds East), thence (7) Northeasterly by a line curving to the right with a radius of 660.00 feet for a distance of 387.04 feet (the arc of said curve being subtended by a chord bearing North 36 degrees 26 minutes 30 seconds East 381.52 feet and having a beginning tangent bearing of North 19 degrees 38 minutes 30 seconds East and a departing tangent bearing of North 53 degrees 14 minutes 30 seconds East), and thence (8) North 53 degrees 14 minutes 30 seconds East 81.44 feet, thence running, the ten following courses and distances, viz: (9) South 61 degrees 46 minutes 06 seconds East 4.63 feet, thence (10) South 10 degrees 46 minutes 46 seconds East 64.38 feet, thence (11) South 41 degrees 21 minutes 56 seconds East 106.64 feet, thence (12) North 85 degrees 56 minutes 24 seconds East 12.57 feet, thence (13) South 41 degrees 21 minutes 56 seconds East 305.64 feet, thence (14) South 83 degrees 40 minutes 04 seconds West 395.75 feet, thence (15) South 05 degrees 07 minutes 19 seconds East 134.71 feet, thence (16) South 86 degrees 45 minutes 51 seconds West 73.00 feet, thence (17) South 03 degrees 10 minutes 39 seconds East 93.80 feet, and thence (18) South 86 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds West 213.81 feet to the point of beginning, containing 4.441 acres of land, more or less.

THIS DESCRIPTION HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR ZONING PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE USED FOR CONVEYANCE.

September 23, 1997

Project No. 93082.I (L93082.I)



BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYL  OFFICE OF BUDGET & FINANCE MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPT  DATE 3/26/99 ACCOUNT ROOLLISO  AMOUNT \$ 750.00  RECEIVED FROM: Canall & Buttert	FAID FELEIPT  PROCESS ASTRA TIME  JV26/1999 JV26/1999 09:37:06  REG WEDI CABALER CLIM CAL BRANER I  HISCALLANDIS CASA RECEIPT  FRECIPT & 094445 0917  CR NO. 085422  250.00 CHECK  Baltimore County, Waryland
FOR: PRIME	19-378-A CASHIER'S VALIDATION

Series - et delikalistika

### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing in <u>Towson</u> <u>Manyland</u> of the property identified herein as follows: Case: #99-378-A

25 Stevenson Lane

SE/S Stevenson Lane at intersection with E/S Haddon Half Road

9th Election District - 4th Councilmanic District

Jegal Owner(s): Woodbrook Baptist Church
Variance: to permit one 48.5 square foot free standing, doublefaced, illuminated identification sign in fieu of the permitted 25
square feet; and to permit two 13.6-square feet free standing,
double-faced, non-illuminated directional signs in fieu of the per-

Odding-Reco, Romandamana uncompared a milited 8 square feet.
Hearing: Thinisday, May 20, 1999 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 106, County Office Bldg., 111 West Chesaposite Ave.
LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County NOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special ac-commodations Please Contact the Zoning Commissioner's Office at (410) 887-4386.

(2) For information concerning the File and/or Hearing, Contact the Zoning Review Office at (410) 887-3391.

C307987 4509 April 29

# CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

TOWSON, MD.,	29	. 1999
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexe	d adver	tisement was
published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly	newspa	per published
in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., once in ea		
weeks, the first publication appearing on	420	1999.

THE JEFFERSONIAN,

UKINST

**LEGAL ADVERTISING** 

# .. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

	RE: Case No.: 99-378-A
	Petitioner/Developer:
	WOODBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH
	% LAURENCE JEUKINS JR
	Date of Hearing/Closing: 5/20/99
Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management County Office Building, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204	
Attention: Ms. Gwendolyn Stephens	
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
This letter is to certify under the penalties of	perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law
were posted conspicuously on the property lo	
<u> </u>	
	VENSON LA
The sign(s) were posted on	5/5/99
	(Month, Day, Year)
ASE # 99-378-A	
	Sincerely,
No. of the control of	1110001
	(Signature of Sign Poster and Date)
ZONNA MINE	RICHARD E HOFFMAN
	(Printed Name)
The state of the s	904 DELWOOD DA
	(Address)
man are still, and there	FALLSTON, MO 21047
	(City, State, Zip Code)
	(410) 879-3122
4	(Telephone Number)
The section of the se	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
5 STEVENSON LANG	
705770 5/5/99	

RE: PETIT	ION FO	R VAR	JANCE			*		BEFORE	ETHE		
25 Stevenson Lane, SE/S Stevenson Ln at intersection with E/S of Haddon Hall Rd, 9th Election District, 4th Councilmanic					*		ZONINO	G COMN	MSSION	IER	
9th Election Di	strict, 4	th Coun	cilmanic			*		FOR			
Legal Owners:	Wood	lbrook E	Baptist Cl	hurch		*		BALTIM	IORE CO	OUNTY	
Petitio	ner(s)					*		Case Nu	mher 99	}-378-A	
* *	*	ak	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	;

## ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Please enter the appearance of the People's Counsel in the above-captioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates of other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary or final Order.

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

Deputy People's Counsel

arole S. Demilio

Old Courthouse, Room 47 400 Washington Avenue

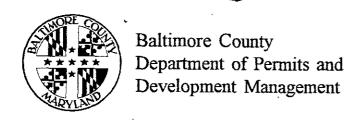
Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 1999, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to C. Laurence Jenkins, Jr. Esq., 211 E. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, attorney for Petitioner(s).

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN



Development Processing County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 pdmlandacq@co.ba.md.us

April 8, 1999

## **NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING**

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 99-378-A
25 Stevenson Lane
SE/S Stevenson Lane at intersection with E/S Haddon Hall Road
9<sup>th</sup> Election District – 4<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District
Legal Owner: Woodbrook Baptist Church

<u>Variance</u> to permit one 48.5 square-foot free-standing, double-faced, illuminated identification sign in lieu of the permitted 25 square feet; and to permit two 13.6-square feet free-standing, double-faced, non-illuminated directional signs in lieu of the permitted 8 square feet.

HEARING: Thursday, May 20, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, County Office Building, 111 West Chesapeake Avenue

Arnold Jabion

Director

c: C. Laurence Jenkins, Jr., Esquire Woodbrook Baptist Church

NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER/ MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY MAY 5, 1999.

(2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

Come visit the County's Website at www.co.ba.md.us



TO: PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY

April 29, 1999 Issue – Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:

Woodbrook Baptist Church Attention: Bob Waddal

25 Stevenson Lane Baltimore, MD 21212 410-377-2350

## **NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING**

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 99-378-A

25 Stevenson Lane

SE/S Stevenson Lane at intersection with E/S Haddon Hall Road

9<sup>th</sup> Election District – 4<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District

Legal Owner: Woodbrook Baptist Church

<u>Variance</u> to permit one 48.5 square-foot free-standing, double-faced, illuminated identification sign in lieu of the permitted 25 square feet; and to permit two 13.6-square feet free-standing, double-faced, non-illuminated directional signs in lieu of the permitted 8 square feet.

HEARING: Thursday, May 20, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, County Office Building, 111 West Chesapeake Avenue

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

# DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT ZONING REVIEW

# ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS

The <u>Baltimore County Zoning Regulations</u> (BCZR) require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property (responsibility of the petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing.

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

# OPINIONS MAY NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL ADVERTISING COSTS ARE PAID.

For Newspaper Advertising:	
Item Number or Case Number: #378	
Petitioner Woodhrak Baptist Church	
Petitioner: Woodbrwk Baptist Church  Address or Location: 15 Stevenson Lyn	
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:	
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:  Name: Woodbrook Buptist Church  Address: 25 Stevenson Lum	Attention: Bub Waddal
Address: 25 Stevensen Lynn	
Bytimure, Md 21212	
Telephone Number: 4/0- 377- 2350	
relephone Number:	

Revised 2/20/98 - SCJ

Exhibit B

FILEU BY ATTNY 3/26
OKIG MANEY
TO ATTNY 3/26

Request for Zoning: Variance, Special Exception, or Special Hearing
Date to be Posted: Anytime before but no later than
Format for Sign Printing, Black Letters on White Background:

# **ZONING** NOTICE

Case No.: 99-378-A

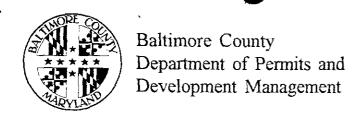
A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE ZONING COMMISSIONER IN TOWSON, MD

PLACE:
DATE AND TIME:
REQUEST: A VARIANCE TO PERMIT 2 DIRECTIONAL SIGNS EACH WITH A
13. 6 BE SO, FT. FACE IN CLEU OF THE ALLOWED 6 SO, FTWAND TO PERMIT
AN IDENTIFICATION SIGN WITH A 48.5 SQ.FT. AREA IN CIEU OF THE
PERMITTED 25 SQ FT, PER FACE,
POSTPONEMENTS DUE TO WEATHER OR OTHER CONDITIONS ARE SOMETIMES NECESSARY.

DO NOT REMOVE THIS SIGN AND POST UNTIL DAY OF HEARING UNDER PENALTY OF LAW

TO CONFIRM HEARING CALL 887-3391.

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE



Development Processing County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 pdmlandacq@co.ba.md.us

May 14, 1999

C. Laurence Jenkins, Jr., Esq. 211 E. Baltimore Street Baltimore, MD 21202

RE: Case No.: 99-378-A

Petitioner: Woodbrook Baptist Location: 25 Stevenson Lane

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits and Development Management (PDM), on March 26, 1999.

The Zoning Advisory (ZAC), Committee of which consists representatives from several Baltimore County approval agencies, has reviewed the plans that were submitted with your petition. All comments submitted thus far from the members of the ZAC are attached. comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to ensure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. All comments will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency.

Very truly yours,

W. Carl Richards, Jr.

Zoning Supervisor

Zoning Review

WCR:ggs

Enclosures

\$120 ml

**DATE:** April 29, 1999

# BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

## INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Arnold Jablon, Director

Department of Permits and Development Management

FROM:

Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III

Director, Office of Planning

**SUBJECT:** 

Woodbrook Baptist Church

25 Stevenson Lane

### **INFORMATION:**

Item Number:

378

Petitioner:

Woodbrook Baptist Church

**Property Size:** 

4.5 acres

Zoning:

DR 3.5

Requested Action:

Variance

**Hearing Date:** 

May 3, 1999

### **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### Request

The Variance being requested in this case is from the following: a) Section 450.4.6 for one (1) freestanding, double faced, illuminated identification sign which exceeds the permitted 25 square feet, and 2) Section 450.4.3 for two (2) freestanding, double faced, non-illuminated, directional signs which exceed the permitted eight (8) square feet.

The subject property is a 4.5 acre site, improved by the Woodbrook Baptist Church complex, including the original church, a new sanctuary addition completed in 1997, church offices, the Woodbrook Early Education Center, and 94 parking spaces. It is located in the Woodbrook Village community which is included within the boundaries of the Towson Community Plan.

The applicant is proposing to install a coordinated signage package. Specifically two directional signs will designate the circulation pattern and provide direction on the church campus to the parking area and the early education center. Each of these signs will be 4 foot

tall, double sided, non-illuminated signs with a total area of 13.6 square feet. They are located close to the main church building and sanctuary in strategic locations, both at least 100 feet from the street edge of Stevenson Lane. Also proposed is an identification sign to be installed at the main entrance near Stevenson Lane and will replace the existing eight (8) foot tall wooden sign that currently occupies the site now. The new sign will be 4'8" tall, have an area of 48.5 square feet, and will be illuminated. The design, materials and lettering of all of the signs will be consistent.

# Summary of Recommendations

If approved, the following recommendations should be incorporated:

- 1. Include a landscape treatment of appropriate plant material around the base of the two directional signs and the identification sign.
- 2. Reexamine the design (particularly the width) of the identification sign in an effort to decrease its total area, thus decreasing the amount of variance being requested. The current elevation seems to indicate substantial blank space on the sign face that could be eliminated.
- 3. Provide ground mounted up-lighting as the form of illumination for the identification sign as opposed to internal illumination.

Section Chief:

AFK:



700 East Joppa Road Towson, Maryland 21286-5500 410-887-4500

April 15, 1999

Arnold Jablon, Director Zoning Administration and Development Management Baltimore County Office Building Towson, MD 21204 MAIL STOP-1105

RE: Property Owner: SEE BELOW

Location: DISTRIBUTION MEETING OF APRIL 5, 1999

Item No.: See Below Zoning Agenda:

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

8. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time, IN REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING ITEM NUMBERS:

367, 368, 369, 371, 372, 373, 374, 376, 377, 378, AND 379.

REVIEWER: LT. ROBERT P. SAUERWALD

Fire Marshal Office, PHONE 887-4881, MS-1102F

cc: File

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

### INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Arnold Jablon, Director

Date: April 12, 1999

Department of Permits & Development

Management

FROM:

Robert W. Bowling, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans Review

SUBJECT: Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

for April 12, 1999

Item Nos. 368, 372, 373, 374, 377,

and (378)

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject zoning items, and we have no comments.

RWB:HJO:jrb

cc: File

# BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Arnold Jablon, Director

Permits and Development Management

DATE: april/13/99

FROM:

R. Bruce Seeley, Project Manager RN /4

Development Coordination

DEPRM

SUBJECT:

Zoning Advisory Committee

Distribution Meeting Date: 4/5/99

The Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management has **no comments** for the following Zoning Advisory Committee Items:

Item #'s: 36-8 370 371 373 374 375 375 178 # 99-342-A # 99-345-A



Parris N. Glendening Governor John D. Porcari Secretary Parker F. Williams Administrator

Date: 4.2.99

Ms. Gwen Stephens
Baltimore County Office of
Permits and Development Management
County Office Building, Room 109
Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Baltimore County

Item No. 378

JLL

Dear. Ms Stephens:

This office has reviewed the referenced item and we have no objection to approval as it does not access a State roadway and is not affected by any State Highway Administration projects.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Larry Gredlein at 410-545-5606 or by E-mail at (lgredlein@sha.state.md.us).

Very truly yours,

1. J. Drell

Michael M. Lenhart, Acting Chief Engineering Access Permits Division



# WOODBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

Formerly Eutaw Place Baptist Church 25 Stevenson Lane, Baltimore, MD 21212-1296

JOHN E. ROBERTS, Pastor GREG A. COCHRAN, Minister of Christian Education LINDA SUE RITZ, Director, Weekday Early Ed Center

FAX: 410-377-2351 WEE Phone: 410-377-8918

Phone: 410-377-2350

May 10, 1999

Mrs. Jean Duvall 227 Murdock Road Baltimore, MD 21212

Dear Jean.

Here are the materials you requested concerning our proposed sign. I am happy to lend them to you. If there are any questions, please give me a call. Also, I would be happy to meet with you and any leaders of the Rodgers Forge Community Association as you look over these documents.

A further bit of background - the two smaller signs are to direct visitors to parking lots. These two signs are back from Stevenson Lane and may not even be visible from the road. It may not have been necessary to include them in the Baltimore County hearing but the church wanted to be as cooperative as possible.

We need the proposed sign on Stevenson Lane primarily to assist the large number of community groups who regularly use our church. Those attending these functions need to be able to distinguish us from Brown Memorial (which has Woodbrook in its name) and Rodgers Forge Methodist (which also has a Stevenson Lane address), and to find the off street parking.

Here is a list of groups who have met here within the past year: Armagh Village Community Association Stevenson Mews Community Association the Cloisters Community Association

Woodbrook Village Community Association

Girl Scouts

Cub Scouts

the Missing and Exploited Children's Association

the Ruxton Scribes (a calligraphy group)

the Baltimore Folk Music Society

the Institute of Christian and Jewish Studies adult class

the McKendree School of Religion.

The building is freely offered for use as a community service; none of these groups pay rent - some make a voluntary donation to cover utility costs.

In addition our own programs serve the community. Our English for Students of Others Languages is a weekly group with an enrollment of over 100, many of whom are Rodgers Forge residents. Our WEE School, the Weekday Early Education Program (which you helped so significantly in its early days), and our Summer Daze and Vacation Bible School programs also draw community residents who need to be able to find our church and locate the appropriate parking area. WEE School, by the way, was cited by *Baltimore Magazine* as one of the leading schools in greater Baltimore area and is one of only a handful of schools to have the coveted National Association of Educators of Young Children certification.

I have mentioned only the groups who have recently made use of our building. There have been numerous others in the past, e.g., the Greater Towson Council of Community Associations, a group from Stoneleigh and many others over the years.

As you can see, our church philosophy calls for openness and cooperation to our immediate community and to area wide organizations. We need a visible, but tasteful sign to support this area of ministry by our church.

I hope this further bit of information will be of help as you consider our proposal. Again, please call on me if I can be of help in any way. The Rodgers Forge Community Association and Woodbrook Baptist Church have always been supportive of one another across the years, and our church wants to continue to be a good and cooperative neighbor.

Sincerely yours,

# CITY OF BALTIMORE

KURT L. SCHMOKE, MByor



# DEPARTMENT OF LAW

OTHO M. THOMPSON, City Solicitor 101 City Hall Baltimore, Maryland 21202

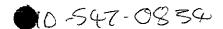
Telefax No. 410-547-9834

# TELEPAX COVER SHEET

то:	John Alexa	indy		
TELEFAX No	- 416 - 98	7-2824		
NUM	BER OF PAGES (Inc	luding Cover Sheet)	 	
FROM:	Larry Jent	707		
TELEPHONE	396-30 Sign Rig	713		
COMMENIS				
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TIME:	11.25		a sudha waa sii	· it a addressee

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# BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT ZONING REVIEW

# **APPROVED SIGN POSTERS**

Stacy Gardner Telephone: 410-781-4000 Shannon-Baum Signs, Inc. Toll Free: 800-368-2295 Tax: 410-781-4673

Eldersburg, MD 21784

Richard Hoffman Telephone: 410-879-3122

904 Dellwood Drive Fallston, MD 21047

Garland E. Moore Telephone: 410-242-4263 3225 Ryerson Circle Mobile: 410-382-4470

Baltimore, MD 21227

Tom Ogle Telephone: 410-687-8405 325 Nicholson Road Mobile: 410-262-8163

Baltimore, MD 21221 Fax: 410-687-4381

 Patrick M. O'Keefe, Sr.
 Telephone: 410-666-5366

 523 Penny Lane
 Cell: 410-905-8571

Hunt Valley, MD 21030 Fax: 410-628-2574 410-882-2469

Linda M. Jones Telephone: 410-296-3333 Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc. Fax: 410-296-4705

200 East Pennsylvania Avenue

Towson, MD 21286

THE PETITIONER MUST USE ONE OF THE SIGN POSTERS ON THIS APPROVAL LIST. ANY REPOSTING MUST BE ALSO BE DONE BY ONE OF THESE APPROVED POSTERS. IF YOU WISH TO SELECT A POSTER NOT SHOWN ON THE LIST ABOVE, PRIOR APPROVAL BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT/ZONING REVIEW IS REQUIRED.

THIS DEPARTMENT IS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE POSTERS, NOR DO WE RECOMMEND ANY SPECIFIC ONE. WE DO SUGGEST THAT YOU CONTACT A NUMBER OF THEM TO COMPARE PRICES SINCE THEIR CHARGES MAY VARY.

# The Rodgers Forge Community, Inc.

# AN ORGANIZATION OF THE RESIDENTS OF RODGERS FORGE BALTIMORE, MD. 21212

May 13, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

This to certify that Jeff Wible is authorized to represent and speak for The Rodgers Forge Community, Inc. concerning the variance requested in case # 99-378-A.

Sincerely,

Arnold H. Greenspun, President

Heard A. Deingen

# The Rodgers Forge Community, Inc.

AN ORGANIZATION OF THE RESIDENTS OF RODGERS FORGE BALTIMORE, MD. 21212

May 13, 1999

Lawrence Schmidt, Esq, Zoning Commissioner County Courts Building 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, MD 21204

Re: Case Number: 99-378-A

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

The Board of Directors of the Rodgers Community Association, Inc. is opposed to the requested variance of a sign to be erected by the Woodbrook Baptist Church The granting of this variance would undermine the recently passed sign legislation that was agreed upon after years of study and consideration

Therefore we request you deny this request for variances in case # 99-378-A

Sincerely, Should H. Hunspin

Arnóld H. Greenspun, President

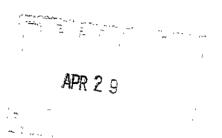
5/20/99 TMK 9:00 AM 106 NOOM 106

# The West Towson Neighborhood Association

P.O. BOX 5580 Towson, MD 21285-5580

April 28, 1999

Lawrence Schmidt, Esq., Zoning Commissioner County Courts building 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, MD 21204



Dear Mr. Commissioner:

In the matter of case # 99-378-A, the request by the Woodbrook Baptist Church for sign variances. This association is opposed to any deviation from the recently enacted sign legislation. This legislation was agreed upon after years of study and consideration by business, commercial and community groups. There is no justification for the Woodbrook Baptist Church's requested variances. If granted, they will undermine the existing regulations by creating a precedent which other commercial and non profit organizations throughout the County will eagerly follow. Good legislation, when it exists, should be enforced, not weakened by self serving, commercially oriented requests for variances and Special Exceptions which intentionally dilute the original legislative intent.

Please deny the request for variances in case # 99-378-A.

Yours sincerely

Richard Parsons, Vice President

Richard Paisons

Cc; Hon Wayne Skinner, Councilman, 4<sup>th</sup> District Mrs. Susan Gray, President, Greater Towson Council of Community Associations.

Mrs. Donna Spicer, President, Community Conservation Action Group

# Greater Towson Council of Community Associations, Inc. 334 Ridge Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21286

May 18, 1999

Lawrence Schmidt
Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County
401 Bosley Avenue
Towson, MD 21204

Dear Mr. Schmidt,

I am writing to you as President of the Greater Towson Council of Community Associations (GTCCA), in regard to Case Number 99-378-A, Woodbrook Baptist Church, 25 Stevenson Lane.

Woodbrook Baptist Church, in asking for permission to construct signs larger than that allowed by current law, is in clear opposition to the tenets held by the neighboring communities and by GTCCA. Large signs would be inherently destructive to the residential nature of the area, and would also serve to undermine the intent of the sign legislation.

GTCCA's position on this and on all similar matters is to support the community at large in its efforts toward preservation. We also believe that the recently passed Baltimore County sign legislation, which was the result of years of careful study, should be rigorously upheld. Therefore, GTCCA recommends that the request for a variance for both the identification sign and the directional signs be denied.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Susan Hughes Graf

Sincerely,

Susan Hughes Gray

President, Greater Towson Council of Community Associations

410/828-1474

cc: Councilman Wayne Skinner



May 20, 1999

Honorable Timothy Kotroco Deputy Zoning Commissioner 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

RE:

25 Stevenson Lane zoning case; request that case be rejected!

Dear Sir:

I intended on attending today's case concerning 25 Stevenson Lane, but was unable to due to the scheduling of the hearing during my working hours. Therefore, I submit these comments.

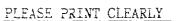
I live across the street from the church and know of no church member efforts to individually inform neighbors of these plans or any earlier plans to chop down a grove of mature trees adjacent to Stevenson Lane - or to tear down a lovely old house on the property, which has been a community landmark for decades. True, there is a zoning sign partially concealed by bushes and not adjacent to existing well displayed church signs.

But, my comments here concern the immediate plans for a zoning variance to construct and illuminate a sign. The church is located in a quiet residential area. Certainly, there is the need for an attractive sign announcing the church. However, I see absolutely no need for the sign to exceed by twice the zoning limitations. There also is no need to illuminate such a sign - after all, most neighborhood streets have no street lights. To allow the church to build a large lighted sign will harm the character of the neighborhood. I strongly ask that you oppose this zoning request as unnecessary and contrary to the climate and character of the neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

M. Gail Milne



# Petitioner PROTESTANT(S) SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS
Lawy Jenkins	3 Tumberry Ct 21093
John Roberts	1204 St. andrews Way 21239
KEVIN L. MEISER	3 Timberry († 21093 1204 St. andrews Way 21239 3722 COLLEGE AVE, ELIKOTICAY 21093





# PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

# PROTESTANT(S) SIGN-IN SHEET

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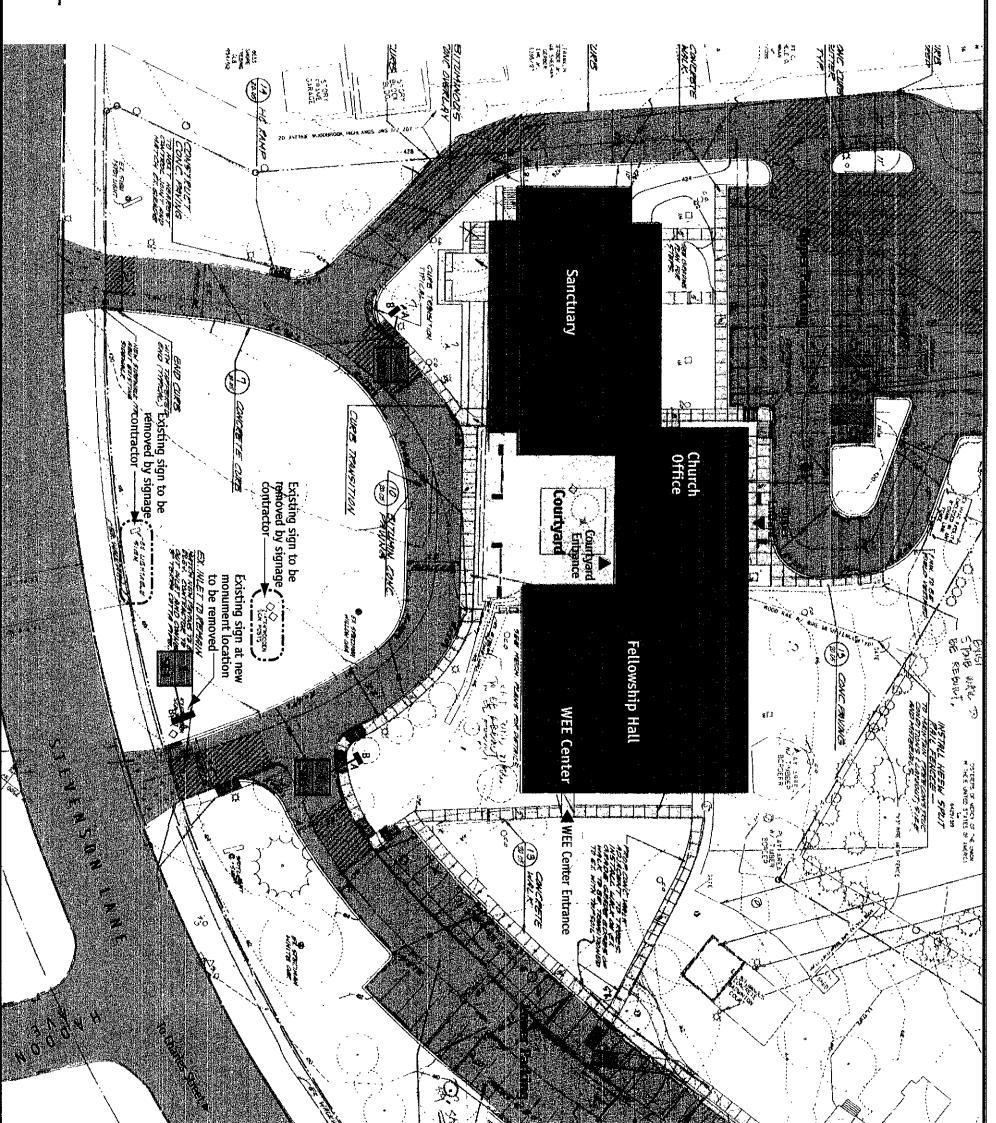
# Project Location

410 377-2350 Contact: John E. Roberts, Pastor Baltimore, MD 21212 Woodbrook Baptist Church 25 Stevenson Lane



**LOCATION PLAN** SITE SIGNAGE

Scale: 1"= 40'



Site Signage Location Plan

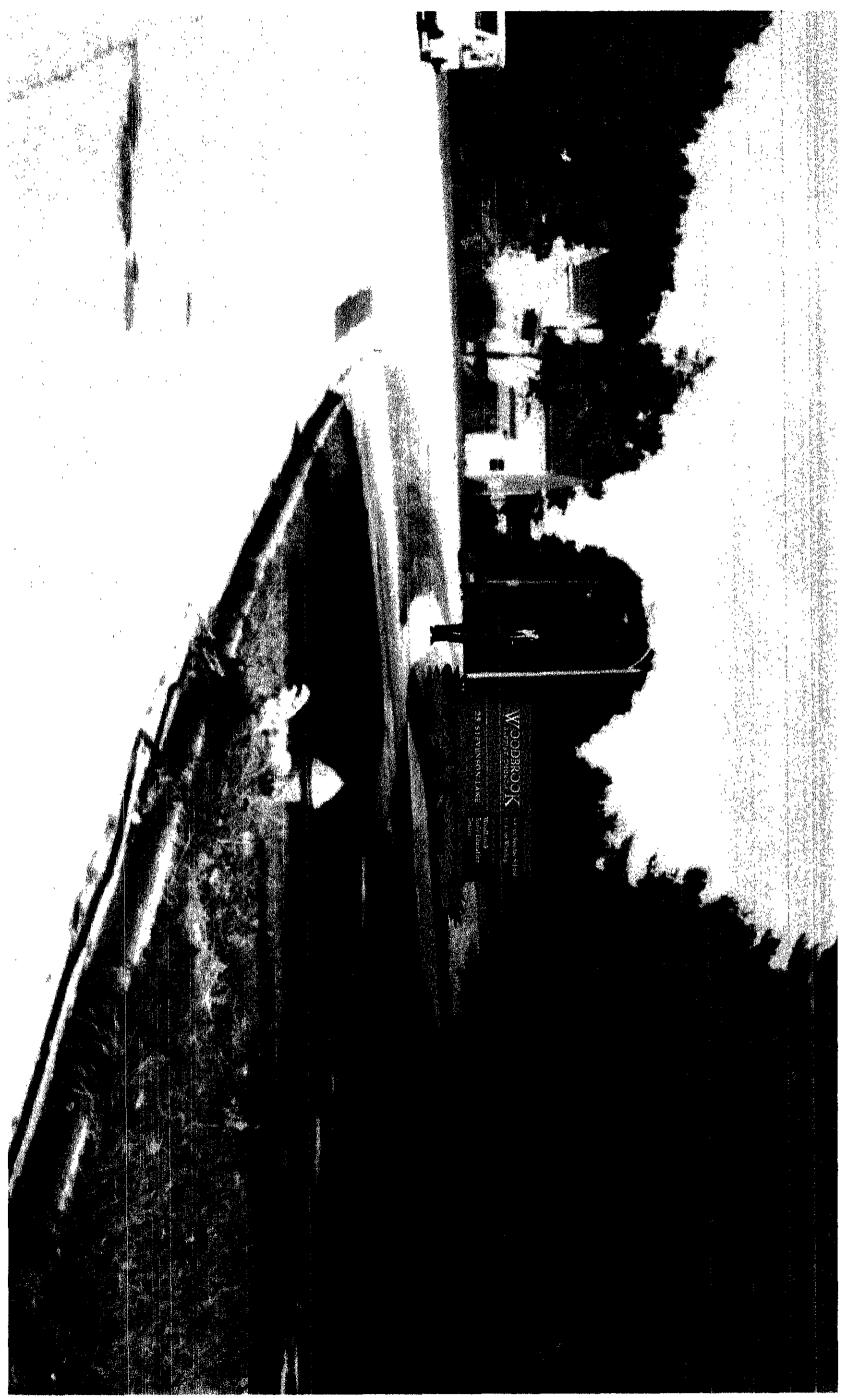
29 June 1998

DATE

GRAPHICS BID DWGS.

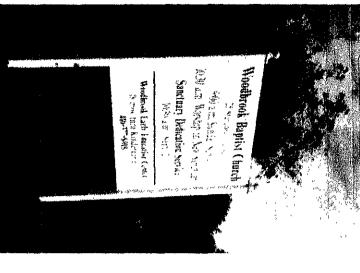
**GRAPHICS & SIGNAGE PROGRAM** 

Design Services 3722 College Avenue Ellicott City, MD 21043 Phone 410 750 2074 Fax 410 750 1132 kworksmail@aol.com



Pod in \*\*

# **Existing Conditions**





of these existing signs. New identity sign will potentially replace all



elsewhere on the property. Original signs have historic value and could be located

# **Entrance Sign Concepts & Criteria**

# **Identity Sign Layout Parameters**

- Type is sized for legibility from a moving vehicle.
- Message placement to allow for well-scaled landscaping and future growth
- Street address should be included at legible size
- landscaping
- Materials compatible with exterior of building and
- Incorporate Woodbrook's new logo identity Well-lit at might; good contrast for daytime

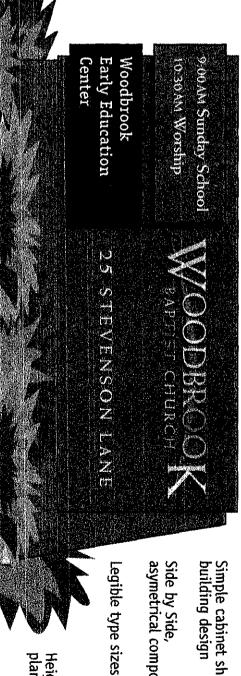
# **Location Parameters**

- Visible from farthest distance along Stevenson Lane as possible
- Avoid placement in shadows
- Locate near turning point (drive)
- Shouldn't block view of traffic for exiting drivers
- Well-lit at night; good contrast for daytime
- Provide system for changeable messages

# Location at drive nearest nursery entrance provides:

- Direct access to WEE Center
- Approach to front drop off with passengers on the right

Changeable messages



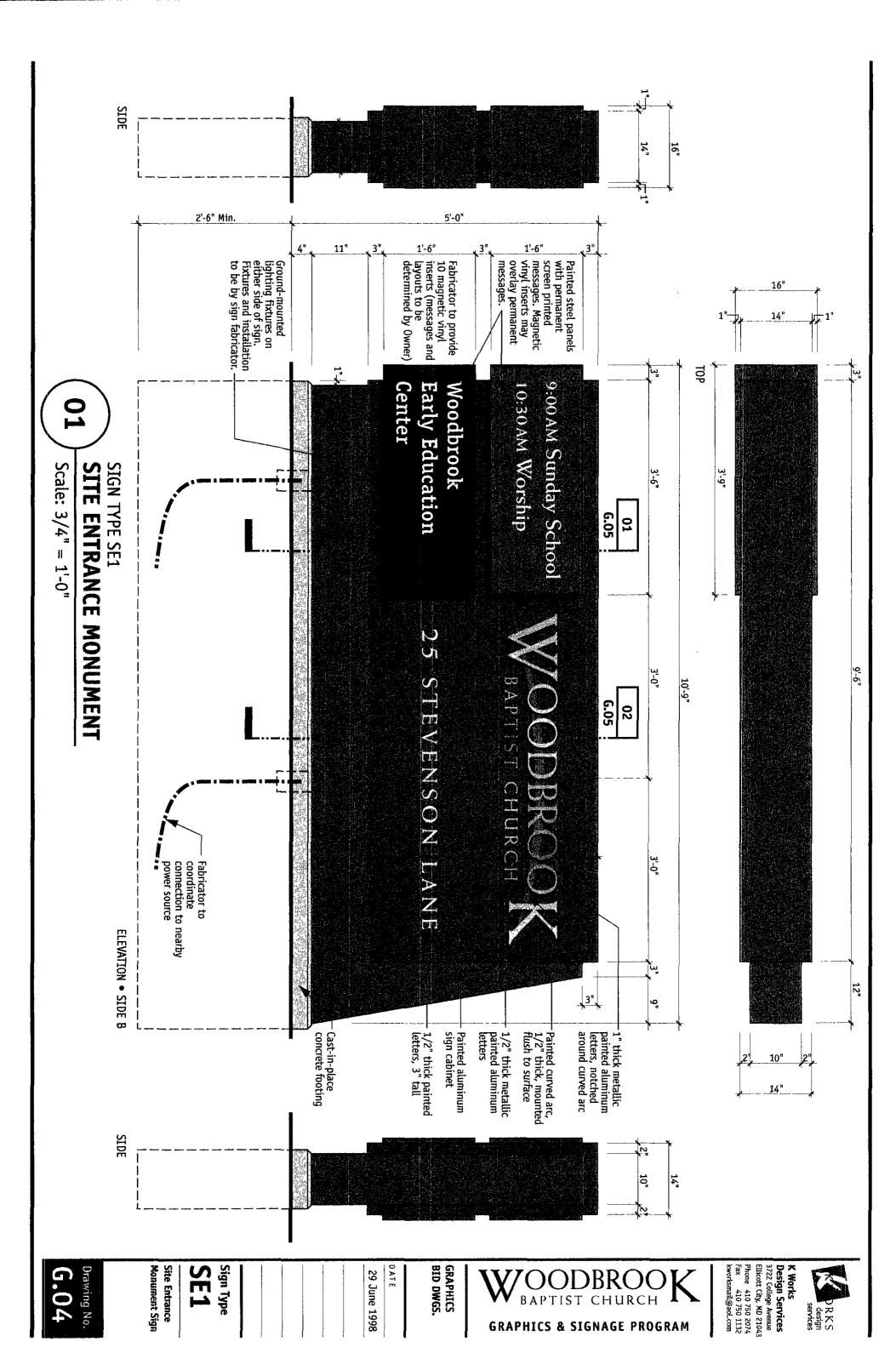
Logical hierarchy of information

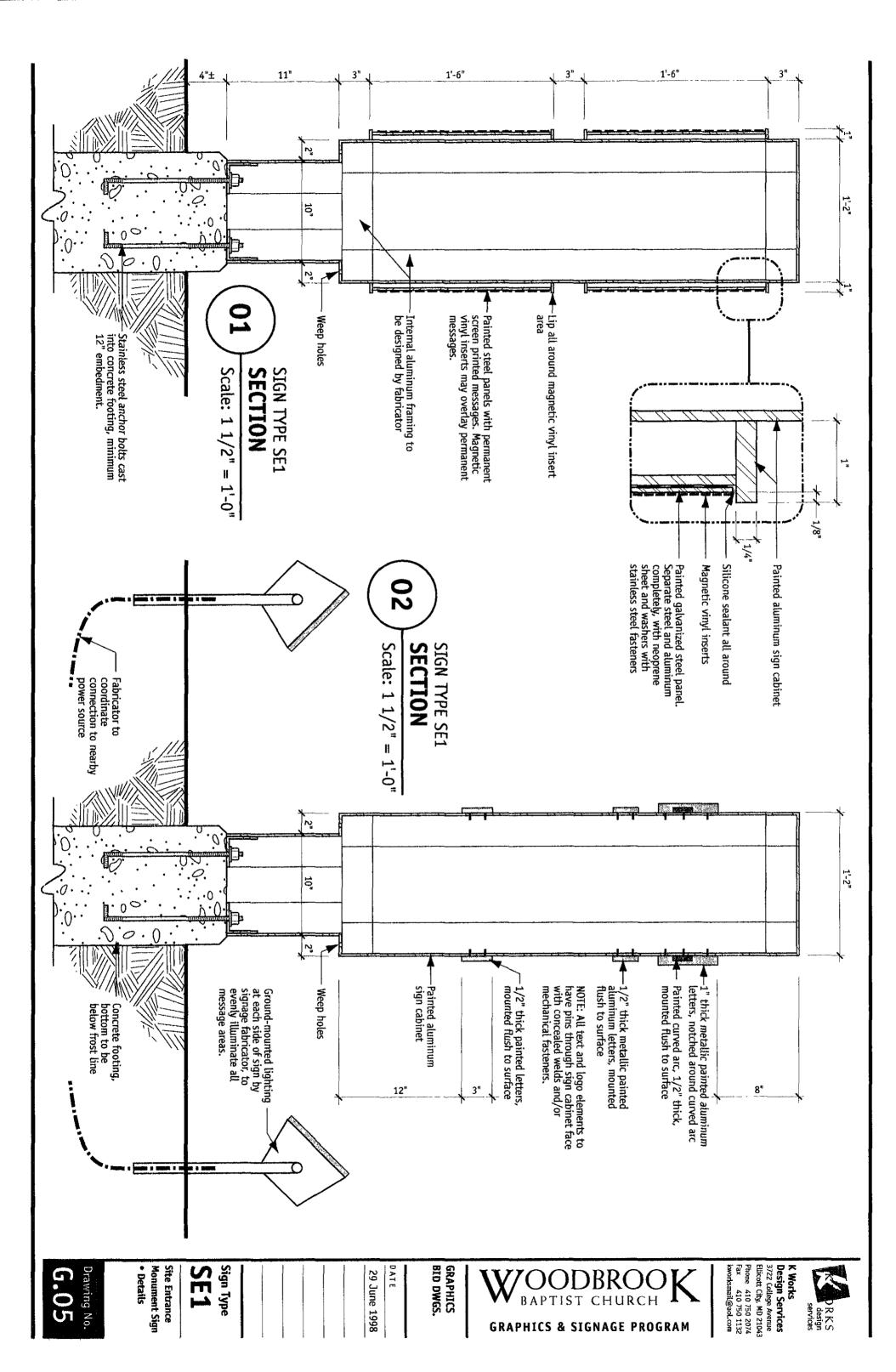
Simple cabinet shapes reflect building design

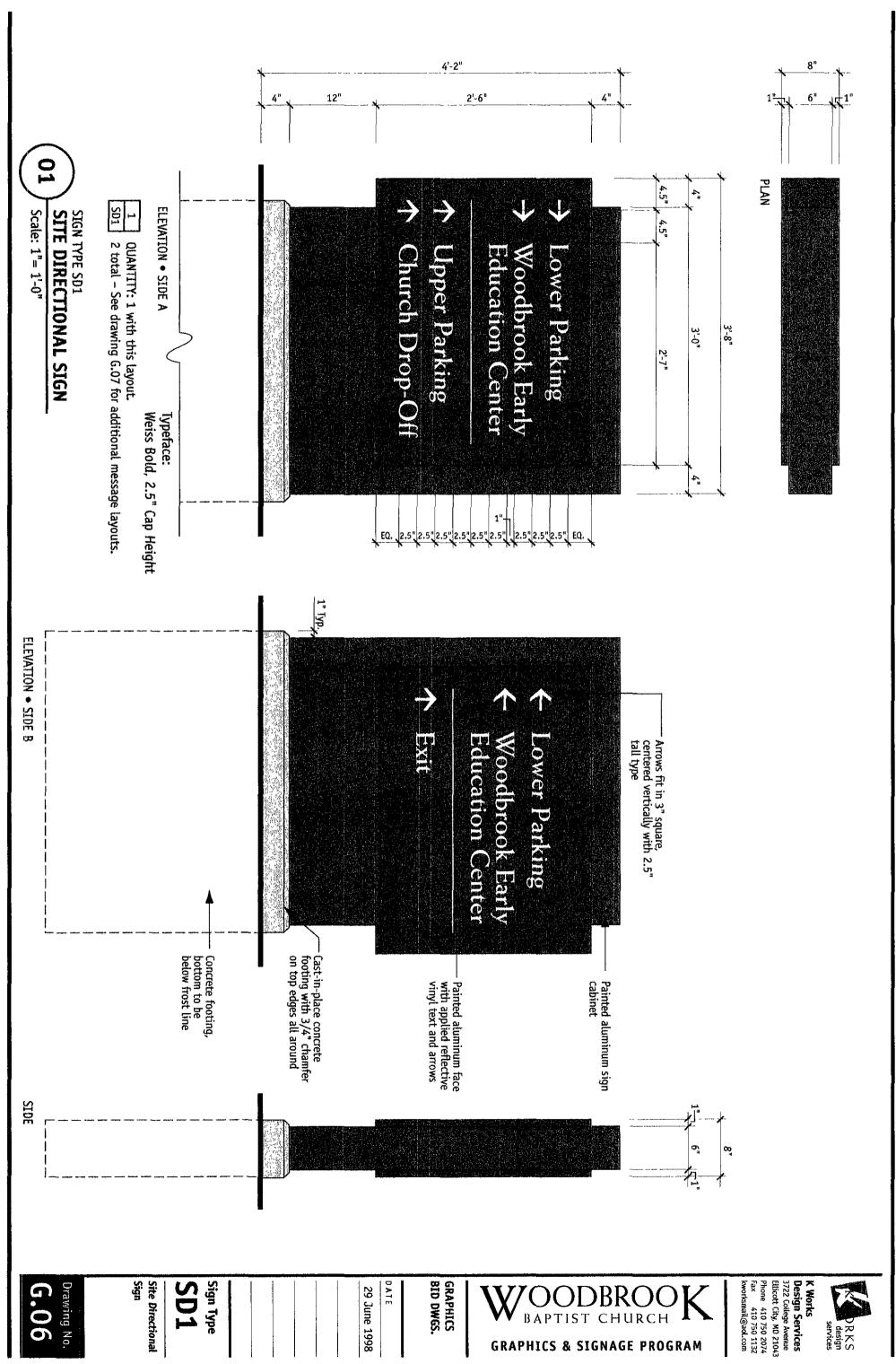
Side by Side, asymetrical composition

Height allows for planting growth

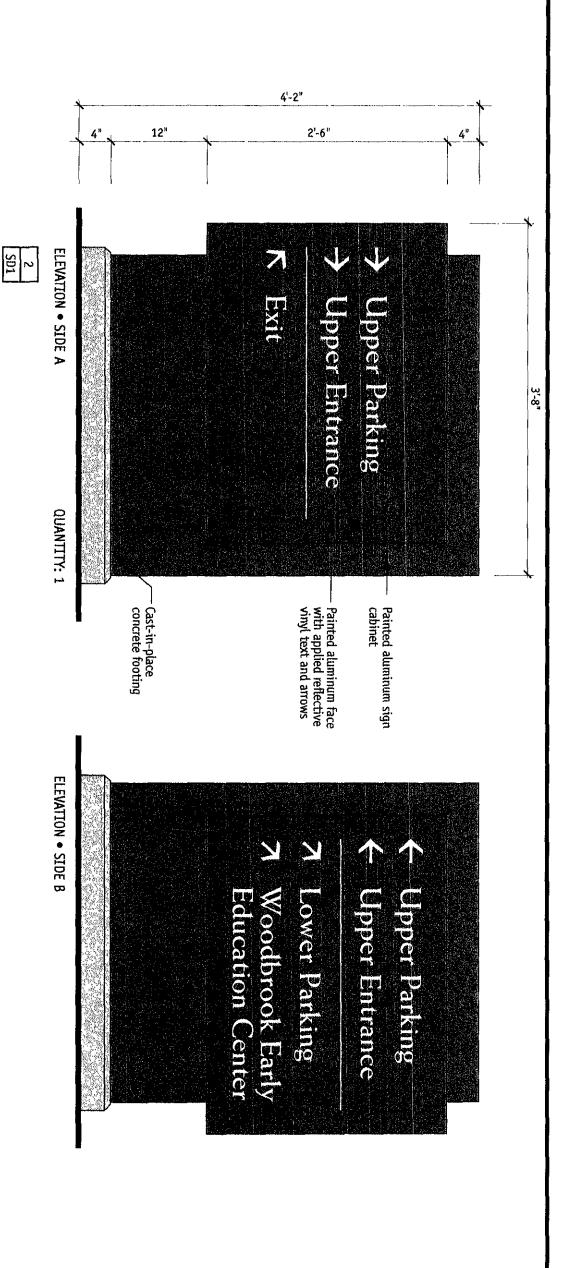
Proposed entrance monument sign design







**GRAPHICS & SIGNAGE PROGRAM** 



Site Directional
Signs • Message
Layouts

Sign Type

DATE 29 June 1998

01

Scale: 1"= 1'-0"

SIGN TYPE SD1
MESSAGE LAYOUTS

GRAPHICS BID DWGS.

**GRAPHICS & SIGNAGE PROGRAM** 

K Works

Design Services
3722 College Avenue
Ellicott City, MD 21043
Phone 410 750 2074
Fax 410 750 1132
kworksmail@aol.com



